

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves. Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time. Using the airways free of charge obligates Pappas by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are not only legally questionable, not only does this matter cast grave doubt on Pappas intentions to serve the public interest, it is becoming ever more apparent that Pappas wants to sway a close election in order to advance their own political agenda. Is this Pappas Telecasting's idea of "Fair and Balanced"? How appalling!